Criteria for Non-Government Directors on Boards of Banks

2549. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria on the basis of which non-government directors are selected for serving on the boards of directors of nationalised banks, the advisory boards for foreign banks and the central board of directors of the Reserve Bank of India;

(b) whether these criteria are revised from time to time;

(c) whether complaints have been received concerning the integrity of these Government nominees named to the boards of banks and financial institutions; and

(d) the modality followed by the authorities to enquire into such complaints?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The appointment of non-official directors on the boards of nationalised banks is made in accordance with the procedure and criteria prescribed in the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970/1980 and the Nationalised Banks (Management and Miscellaneous Provisions) Scheme, 1970/80. The appointment of such directors on the Central Board of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is made in accordance with the procedure and criteria prescribed in the RBI Act, 1934.

Local Advisory Boards of foreign banks are constituted as per the guidelines issued by the RBI. These Local Advisory Boards are not statutory bodies and their role is only advisory in nature.

(b) The criteria followed for selection of persons for appointment as non-official directors on the boards of nationalised banks is reviewed by the Government from time to time.

(c) and (d) RBI have reported that complaints have been received by them regarding two non-official directors. These are being examined in consultation with the concerned banks by RBI for taking necessary action in terms of the appointment of these directors.

Encouraging Research in Homoeopathy in the Context of Health for all by 2000 AD

2550. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Health Policy assigns an important role to Homoeopathy in health care in the country in the context of the National target of achieving, 'Health for All' by 2000 AD;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to encourage research in Homoeopathy; and

(c) if so, the total funding sanctioned for this purpose to the Homoeopathic institutions imparting degree level education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) The National Health Policy of 1983 envisages that Homoeopathy be developed in accordance with its genius with a view to find its appropriate role and place in the overall health care delivery system in the country. The Fourth conference of Central Council for Health and Family Welfare in its meeting held on October 11—13th, 1995 laid emphasis on Homoeopathy in achieving the goal of 'Health for All' and accordingly it was resolved that adequate budget allocation be made for the development of Homoeopathy; strengthening under graduate colleges; ensuring quality control of drugs; setting up treatment centres and wards in State/District hospitals; conservation of Medicinal Plants and propagation of herbs for simple health programmes.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) At present Homoeopathic institutions imparting degree level education are not provided financial assistance for research. However, for conducting research in Homoeopathy the Central Govt. has already set up Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH). The budgetary (Plan) provision to the tune of Rs. 7.00 crores has been provided to this Council during the 8th Five Year Plan. The Central Govt. has also set up a National Institute of Homoeopathy at Calcutta which besides imparting Homoeopathic education is also engaged in research activities. The Institute has been provided a Plan outlay of Rs. 6.00 crores during the 8th Five Year Plan for all its activities.

Completion of Domestic Building at Goa Airport

2551. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) by when the domestic building at Goa Airport is likely to be completed; and

(b) by when it will be commissioned to be used by the domestic traffic?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) The Domestic Block at Goa is likely to be completed by January, 1997. The work is on schedule.

(b) The Domestic Block is likely to be commissioned by early March, 1997 after testing of electro-mechanical systems.

Exodus of Executives and Workers of Doordarshan

2552. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem in Hindi daily 'Jansatta' of 3rd November, 1996 regarding exodus of the Executives and the Workers of Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government on various issues raised in the report;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Executive/employees of Doordarshan cannot join private/public sector companies within two years of retirement, without obtaining prior approval of Government; and

(d) if so, how these persons have been allowed to join private companies?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of officers who have left Doordarshan is negligible when compared with its large set-up. Infact, a number of eligible officers are available to fill up the resultant vacancies. The position is, therefore, not considered alarming.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The officers who have left Doordarshan have resigned/sought voluntary retirement either due to personal reasons or for joining other Government Services. Government has no official information of their joining private companies as none of them has sought Government permission for this.

Film and Television Forum's demand to give Doordarshan a New Look

2553. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: DR. RANBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether some demands have been made in Delhi in recent past by Films and Television Forum to give Doordarshan a total new look in terms of presentation and programming;

(b) if so, details thereof;